



TO OUR STAFF:

As you know, there is a strong movement toward consolidation of the State's two general-purpose data centers: the Health and Human Services Data Center (HHSDC) and the Stephen P. Teale Data Center. The vehicle for this consolidation may be legislation or it may be based on the recommendations of the California Performance Review (CPR). Nonetheless, we believe the concept has great value for California and that it will ultimately be implemented. We are, therefore, proceeding in this direction with the full support of Clark Kelso, the State Chief Information Officer.

One of the challenges we face in implementing consolidation is keeping our staff informed regarding the events that are taking place. Consequently, we intend to provide updates on our plans and any progress made toward consolidation through joint memos, such as this one, which will be posted on both department websites.

At this year's Government Technology Conference, the Customer Services/Client Relations groups from both Data Centers joined forces and shared a booth. The public aspect of this collaboration surprised a lot of customers, who are often unaware of the ways in which HHSDC and Teale already work together. Operational Recovery Mutual Aid (ORMA) is another example of a project both Data Centers have been working on together for some time. Currently, a workgroup comprised of executive staff from HHSDC and Teale is meeting every two weeks to develop a transition plan for the consolidation. While this collaboration isn't new, you will certainly be seeing more of it as we move forward. Other joint projects are in progress, as well, and we plan to spotlight those efforts in future updates.

We know that the highly-skilled staff of both Data Centers are committed to assisting our customers to effectively and efficiently apply technology within their organizations. We also know that commitment will not be compromised as consolidation efforts are implemented. Thank you for your continued good work to make California a leader in information technology.

Bob Austin, Interim Director
Health and Human Services Data Center

Craig Grivette, Director
Teale Data Center